

Minutes

Talbot County Board of Elections
215 Bay Street
Easton, MD 21601
October 16, 2019

Present:

Board

Joseph H. Secrist, President	(R)
Walter Black	(D)
Richard B. Bulman	(R)
Wadella Thomas	(R)
Susan MacKinnon	(D)

Staff

Jeri Cook, Election Director

Board Attorney

Philip Cronan

The monthly meeting of the Talbot County Board of Elections was held on October 16, 2019 in Conference Room # One at the Board office indicated above. Mr. Secrist called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Mr. Secrist noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Secrist asked if the Board had any corrections or additions to the minutes of the meeting of September 18, 2019, copies of which had been forwarded to the Board Members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Bulman moved approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Black seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Changes to the Agenda/Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Black moved approval of the agenda as presented. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Election Director's Report

Ms. Cook reported on the following:

- Phone lines have been reworked to include an additional line in the office and the ability of the warehouse to accept voicemail. Other phone issues are still being worked on.

- Some of the security measures requested by the Board after meeting with the county at the September's meeting have been addressed and completed. There are still some security measures that are pending.
- Staff attended several training/meetings. Ms. Cook met with the county representative and architectural firm of Davis, Friedel & Bowen to discuss and plan for our space needs for the office and the warehouse.
- Our website page for agendas and minutes has been updated to archive old agendas and minutes with only the current year on the face page for easier access to the public. Our Facebook page continues to receive quite a bit of interest regarding serving as election judges.

Board Attorney's Report

At the Board meeting of August 21, 2019, Mr. Bulman introduced amendments to the bylaws. At that meeting, he moved approval of those amendments. Mr. Black seconded the motion. At the Board meeting on September 18, 2019, there was discussion of the proposed amendments by the Board members, Ms. Cook and Board Attorney Philip Cronan. Mr. Cronan was asked to consolidate the comments. Mr. Cronan circulated a proposed revision to the bylaws reflecting Mr. Bulman's suggested changes along with changes to reflect comments received from others at the September meeting. Mr. Cronan presented the Board with the changes to include a few additional changes suggested by Mr. Bulman. Mr. Bulman then moved to accept the modifications to his original proposed amendments presented at this meeting by Mr. Cronan. Ms. MacKinnon seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Mr. Bulman then moved approval of the bylaws as modified. Ms. McKinnon seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Mr. Cronan agreed to put it in a rough format for Ms. Cook to review and put in final format. She will then send forward to the State Board of Elections for approval. Mr. Cronan had no additional items to report.

Old Business

a. Facilities for Election Board

Ms. Cook reported earlier in the meeting that the county reached out to the election office to meet with Davis, Friedel & Bowen to assist in developing specifications for our office space and the area where we now store and maintain voting equipment.

b. Biennial Meeting

Ms. Cook distributed the agenda for the Biennial meeting to be held in Annapolis on October 17, 2019. All staff, Board Members and the Board Attorney are expected to attend unless waived by the State Board of Elections.

c. Budget FY2020

Ms. Cook provided financial reports on expenditures year to date. There were no questions from Board Members.

d. Review Invoices

Ms. Cook provided copies of invoices received since the last meeting and responded to questions from Board Members.

e. County Bulletins

Ms. Cook distributed copies of recent County Bulletins and responded to questions from Board Members.

f. Bylaws review

This item was discussed under Board Attorney's Report.

New Business

There was no new business.

Confirmation of next meeting

Mr. Secrist reported that the next meeting will be Wednesday November 20, 2019 at 9:30 AM.

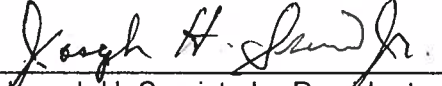
Closed Session

The Board did not meet in Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Black moved adjournment of the meeting. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Attested,



Joseph H. Secrist, Jr., President

Respectfully submitted,



Richard B. Bulman, Secretary